

# PAGE TWO

## IN YOUR WORDS

### Bowe Bergdahl's captivity

I think it's important to not link Bergdahl's return (and the effort required by the government to return him) with his actions prior to his capture and whatever actions his unit took after his capture. Many people are making accusations against Bergdahl, but it is for the military to investigate his actions and then, based on its findings, to decide how it will respond to the findings. The charge of desertion is one of the most serious that can be leveled against a military member. Bergdahl deserves a fair investigation and not a rush to judgment.

CITIZEN, RHODE ISLAND

How have we become so divided that even the return of a prisoner of war offers an opportunity for criticism and backbiting? The fault is not to be placed on Bowe Bergdahl's head; it belongs to those who got us there in the first place. Shame on those who have no pity for this young man, who may never be the same again.

HELEN, CHICAGO

It is natural for soldiers who remained steadfastly committed to their unit, to the cause, and to their oath, to be angry at someone who walked. The military depends upon unit cohesion and loyalty to get the job done.

ANNE-MARIE HISLOP, CHICAGO

### Obama backs Eastern Europe

Mr. Obama has been traveling the world pledging "solidarity" and committing to "security" with everyone he can. Alas, his actions over the last six years tell a story of increasing rhetoric and decreasing tangible actions. With the U.S. saddled with \$17 trillion debt and with bungled exits from Iraq and Afghanistan, mishandling of Syria and Russia, and a misguided approach on Iran, Mr. Obama's credibility is at an all-time low. Pledges will do very little to restore his reputation in the international arena.

VIZITEI YURI, BAD HOMBURG, GERMANY

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## IN OUR PAGES

International Herald Tribune

### 1914 Giant Warships Not Needed

LONDON Has the day of the Dreadnought and super-Dreadnought passed? This is the question Admiral Sir Percy Scott poses in the "Times" and answers with an emphatic "Yes." According to Sir Percy, such colossal engines of destruction are being built in vain. Submarines and aeroplanes have revolutionized naval warfare, and the safety of the British Isles and of the Empire lies in the possession of an enormous fleet of these instruments of warfare.

### 1939 Dog Breeding in Third Reich

BERLIN The S.A., or Sturm Abteilung, which in January was given control of the pre-military and the post-military training of German manhood, has now been put in charge of all dog breeding in Germany, it was announced yesterday [June 4] at the international dog show at Dortmund. Dogs are also important to military defense, according to Karl Vetter, president of the Reich organization of small animal breeders, who indicated that the S. A. intended to concentrate on the breeding of bigger and better war dogs.

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# Finland, at the roots



MARIA GALLEN-KALLELA (ABOVE AND BELOW LEFT); JUUSO WESTERLUND (BELOW RIGHT AND BOTTOM)



ORIGIN MYTH "The Kalevala," a compilation of Finnish mythology and verse, is said to be set in an area of eastern Finland called Kainuu, known for its wilderness and now for a declining population and high suicide rate.

The Kainuu Project, carried out by a group of five photographers, set out to document the area. Top, a "bubble hall" in Kajaani for sports training. Right, Tuomas is a fortune-teller who uses chewing gum,

jammed on a wall, to predict the future. Bottom, the landscape of the Talvivaara mine. Above, a woman at a traditional Saturday night dance in Jermua. The photographers' work can be seen online at [kainuu.tumblr.com](http://kainuu.tumblr.com).



# Strained ties for America and Israel



Mark Landler

## LISTENING POST

WASHINGTON For allies who speak often of their unbreakable bonds and constant communication, this has been a season of static between Israel and the United States. The latest eruption was over the announcement this week that Washington would work with a new Palestinian government that emerged from reconciliation talks with Hamas.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other senior Israeli officials have condemned the Obama administration in unusually vitriolic terms for rushing to embrace a government supported by a group that the West has labeled a terrorist organization.

On Wednesday, Secretary of State John Kerry defended the decision, saying the new government did not have any Hamas members in cabinet posts and had pledged to abide by peaceful principles, including recognition of the state of Israel. The Israeli government, he noted, was continuing to send the Palestinian Authority tax remittances.

The back-and-forth shows how deeply strained relations between Israel and the United States have become since the collapse of peace talks between the Israelis and Palestinians, for which American officials placed the blame mainly on Israel and which the Israelis heatedly denied.

But this episode may only be a prelude to a much larger confrontation over Hamas. This week, the president of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, called for elections in the West Bank and Gaza within six months. With Hamas expected to field candidates, the White House will have to decide whether to oppose its participation, and then, whether to deal with a government in which Hamas could play a bigger role.

"Can a group that has a political party and a militia of 20,000 troops run in an election?" said a senior administration official. "These are issues that are going to have to be dealt with down the road."

The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the administration had not made any decisions. But Israel has made clear that it will fight the inclusion of any Hamas candidates in the race and will not negotiate with any Palestinian government that includes the group.

History does not offer the Obama administration a comforting precedent.

In 2006, the George W. Bush administration went along with Hamas's participation in Palestinian legislative elections, partly because Mr. Abbas made a strong case for it to the White House and partly because nobody thought the group stood any chance of winning.

When Hamas swept to a historic victory over Mr. Abbas's Fatah Party, it plunged the peace process into turmoil, prompted the Israelis and the West to impose sanctions on the Palestinian Authority and led critics to question whether Mr. Bush's aggressive promotion of democracy was coming at the cost of America's strategic interests.

"We made a mistake in allowing Hamas participation in 2006, and I hope we will not make that mistake twice," said Elliott Abrams, who served as deputy national security adviser and was heavily involved in Middle East policy during that period.

Mr. Abrams said he sympathized with the administration's desire not to cut off all ties with the new Palestinian government. Doing so could precipitate a financial crisis in the Palestinian Authority, which would be dangerous for Israel's security. He said the United States should continue security assistance and aid programs in the West Bank, while holding back \$200 million in cash transfers to the new government.

But if the United States did not oppose Hamas's participation in the elections, Mr. Abrams said, "then we're looking at a potentially major disagreement."

In fact, he said, one of the reasons the Israelis were reacting so strongly now, "is to stake out their position later."

Like other recent disputes between Israel and the United States, this week's tension is shrouded in conflicting interpretations of what officials told each other in private conversations. Israeli officials insist that senior American officials assured them the United States would take a wait-and-see attitude with the new Palestinian government.

"Instead of taking a standoff approach, they, in effect, became the first government in the world to recognize the Palestinian government," said an Israeli official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue. "They essentially became the first domino."

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# Yuri Kochiyama, activist, dies at 93

BY WILLIAM YARDLEY

Yuri Kochiyama, a civil rights activist who formed an unlikely friendship with Malcolm X when he was still promoting black nationalism and later cradled his head in her hands as he lay dying from gunshot wounds in 1965, died on Sunday

## OBITUARY

in Berkeley, Calif. She was 93.

Her granddaughter Akemi Kochiyama confirmed the death.

Mrs. Kochiyama, the child of Japanese immigrants who settled in Southern California, knew discrimination well by the time she was a young woman. During World War II, she spent two years in an internment camp for Japanese-Americans in Arkansas, a searing experience that also exposed her to the racism of the Jim Crow South.

A few years after the war, she married William Kochiyama, whom she had met at the camp, and the couple moved to New York in 1948. They spent 12 years in public housing in Manhattan, in the Amsterdam Houses on the Upper West Side, where most of their neighbors were black and Puerto Rican, before moving to Harlem.

The couple had become active in the

civil rights movement when Mrs. Kochiyama met Malcolm X for the first time at a Brooklyn courthouse in October 1963. He was surrounded by supporters, mostly young black men, when she approached him. She told him she wanted to shake his hand, to congratulate him, she recalled in an interview with The New York Times in 1996.

"I admire what you're doing," she told him, "but I disagree with some of your thoughts."

He asked which ones. "Your harsh stand on integration," she said.

He agreed to meet with her later, and by 1964 Mrs. Kochiyama and her husband had befriended him. Early that year, Malcolm X began moving away from the militant Nation of Islam, to which he belonged, toward beliefs that were accepting of many kinds of people. He sent the Kochiyamas postcards from his travels to Africa and elsewhere.

One, mailed from Kuwait on Sept. 27, 1964, read: "Still trying to travel and broaden my scope since I've learned what a mess can be made by narrow-minded people. Bro. Malcolm X."

The following February, Mrs. Kochiyama was in the audience at the Audubon Ballroom in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan waiting to

hear Malcolm X address a new group he had founded, the Organization of Afro-American Unity, when there was a burst of gunfire. She ran toward the stage.

"I just went straight to Malcolm, and I put his head on my lap," she recalled. "He just lay there. He had difficulty breathing, and he didn't utter a word."

A powerful photograph of her holding him accompanied an article about the assassination in the March 5, 1965, issue of Life magazine.

Mrs. Kochiyama was born Mary Yuriko Nakahara on May 19, 1921, in San Pedro, Calif. She said in interviews that she was mostly unaware of political issues until her father, Seiichi, was taken into custody by the F.B.I. shortly after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

Although ill, Mr. Nakahara, a successful fish merchant, was held and interrogated for several weeks before being released on Jan. 20, 1942. He died the next day. By the spring, the rest of the family was among the 120,000 Japanese-Americans sent to internment camps.

Her husband died in 1993. He had been interned in Arkansas before he joined the all-Japanese 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which became one of the most decorated units in American military history.